

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please cancel Claim 1. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

**Claim Listing**

1. (Canceled)
2. (Original) A method of reducing the concentration of oxygen in an aqueous solution, comprising adding to the aqueous solution a reducing agent, a hemoprotein having deoxygenase activity and NO or a source of NO, and incubating the resulting solution under conditions suitable for deoxygenase activity.
3. (Original) A method of consuming NO in an aqueous solution, comprising adding an NO-consuming hemoprotein to the aqueous solution in the presence of O<sub>2</sub> and a reducing agent, and incubating the resulting solution under conditions suitable for NO-consuming activity by the hemoprotein.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the NO-consuming hemoprotein is a flavohemoglobin.
- 5-57. (Canceled)